

## Find the Form to Fit Your Function

Category	Network	Association	Coordinated Project	Campaign Coalition	Ongoing Partnership	Multi-Stakeholder
<i>Purpose</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> To exchange information on topics of common interest, to coordinate calendars and scheduling, or improve practices.	<input type="checkbox"/> To provide specific services to organizational members at a cost savings (e.g., legislative support, administrative service, research).	<input type="checkbox"/> To coordinate work and share resources on a specific issue or program that two or more groups share in common.	<input type="checkbox"/> To coordinate and mobilize the energies and resources of multiple groups on a single issue (often policy-related) in order to wield larger influence and achieve common goals. <input type="checkbox"/> A specific timetable will be set based on when the issue is over – win or lose.	<input type="checkbox"/> To coordinate, mobilize or create something together that no one partner could do alone through a long-term, formal entity. Can house multiple issues and strategies. <input type="checkbox"/> More permanent, given the long-term nature of creating or building process.	<input type="checkbox"/> To discover common ground and sometimes to make decisions by convening organizations and individuals with diverse perspectives.
<i>Duration</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> No set time limit.	<input type="checkbox"/> Many years. Over time, often adds benefits for members.	<input type="checkbox"/> Short or long term, depending on the complexity and vision of the project.	<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple levels of engagement with key decision-makers and players from coalition members.	<input type="checkbox"/> Distinct organization with formal written legal agreements that construct terms of partnership. Partners are clear on what they contribute and how it adds up.	<input type="checkbox"/> Defined process and timetable.
<i>Structure</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Loose knit, but enough structure to coordinate periodic or even regular interaction.	<input type="checkbox"/> Likely to evolve into a distinct nonprofit organization.	<input type="checkbox"/> Steering committees, work groups or task forces representative of the participating organizations are often created to implement the project. No new or formal organization is created.	<input type="checkbox"/> Centralized, shared decision-making authority, representative of the key coalition member organizations to react quickly to time sensitive decisions.	<input type="checkbox"/> Formal board of directors or steering committee representative of key member groups.	<input type="checkbox"/> Formal agreements and ground rules for engagement in process. Structure initially based around a series of conversations.
<i>Authority and Decision-making</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> No formal structure. Authority may be given to those organizing the next meeting to set the agenda.	<input type="checkbox"/> Board of Directors elected by members.	<input type="checkbox"/> Once higher-ups for the shared work approve the concept and resource allocation, decisions rest with program staff.	<input type="checkbox"/> Formal board of directors or steering committee representative of key member groups.	<input type="checkbox"/> Formal board of directors or steering committee representative of key member groups.	<input type="checkbox"/> Varies with intent of outcome. Participating organizations may only have an advisory function or may be based loosely with the leader or group who initiated the exploration.



<i>Members and Leadership</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> All are welcome who share interest and energy. No formal process for entry.	<input type="checkbox"/> Open to likeminded groups with a similar structure, needs and/or focus, and usually are membership based.	<input type="checkbox"/> Member groups make a formal decision to work together and create written documents or contacts to describe role, responsibilities and process.	<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple levels: (1) core member groups with more responsibility and decision-making, and (2) other diverse groups with common interests limited to one issue.	<input type="checkbox"/> Small number of core members with high buy-in and decision-making, and other more numerous, less engaged member groups and individuals.	<input type="checkbox"/> Participating organizations represent the diverse constituencies necessary for issue resolution. Consistent participation of individuals from groups helpful to the process.
<i>Resources</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Cost is relatively low and is shared by those who benefit.	<input type="checkbox"/> Organizational members pay annual fee that provides core funding.	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising is done by the individual organizations or together as a cooperative group, often depending on the project's duration.	<input type="checkbox"/> Fundraising is carried out by the joint entity, and often funds are passed along to the core partner groups.	<input type="checkbox"/> Often initial funding is put up by one of the stakeholder groups or an outside interested party, such as a government agency. Resources are usually not shared between groups.	<input type="checkbox"/> Often initial funding is put up by one of the stakeholder groups or an outside interested party, such as a government agency. Resources are usually not shared between groups.
<i>Staffing</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Usually volunteer, often rotates.	<input type="checkbox"/> Often hired staff or consultants who manage specific services or clusters of benefits.	<input type="checkbox"/> Shared program staff of cooperating organizations, based on expertise and tasks.	<input type="checkbox"/> Hired or allocated from member groups; accounts to the decision-making body.	<input type="checkbox"/> Executive and staff employed to carry out the work of the joint venture.	<input type="checkbox"/> Facilitator often hired to help with the process. A representative subgroup may advise the facilitator.
<i>Communication</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Flows in all directions between participants.	<input type="checkbox"/> Flows predominantly from staff or consultants of the association to its member groups. In best cases, member groups are regularly asked what they want.	<input type="checkbox"/> Most active at program staff level. Regular face-to-face and telephone conversations support the coordination.	<input type="checkbox"/> Frequent communication between key decision-makers, especially during crunch times; ability to communicate quickly and efficiently when strategy requires it.	<input type="checkbox"/> Assumes a high level of integration and communication of many aspects of program planning, fundraising and implementation.	<input type="checkbox"/> Primarily in the formal process, outlined when the group begins; mostly diffuse except at gatherings/meetings.
<i>Total Scores</i>						

